

Cloned

12

Edm. & P. H (1948) Dept.

Mis. Series.

(1)

G.O. No. 1297. Edm.

Dated: 21.5.1948. p 34

Grant — Publication of a
Modern History of India by
the Bharatiya Itihas Itihas
Parishad — Grant of Rs. 10,000/-
Sanctioned

I would like to talk about this to H. M. Finance
C.P.K.
1974

Camp: Bajajwadi, Wardha,
9th April, 1948.

My Dear Shri Ramaswamy Reddiar,

You may be aware that the 'Bharatiya Itihas Parishad' was established some years ago with the object of getting the History of India written by Indian scholars, who have specialised themselves in the subject. It was also proposed that a sort of Historical Research Institute should be established which would carry on research in Indian History and help in the preparation of the history. It was planned to bring out the History in 20 volumes in English and Hindi and in such other languages of India as might be decided later on. An Editorial Board with Sir Jadunath Sirkar as Chairman and some of the most distinguished professors and historians of India as members was appointed. There was another executive committee which had to do the administrative side of the work and I was made its Chairman. The volumes were to be written by scholars, who have specialised in particular periods and particular subjects and the plan was to have one or two chief editors for each volume and to get contributions from the best scholars for each volume. The plan for 12 or 13 volumes was completed and some of the volumes were actually taken up by the editors and the contributors, when the movement of 1942 was started and everything came to stand-still. One volume was completed and another was very nearly completed, while we were still in jail. The first volume was published and some months after my release and the second volume is in the Press. Work has been almost completed on the 3rd volume. For meeting the expenses, I raised funds on behalf of the Parishad from a number of friends before 1942 and also something after my release in 1945. Since I joined the Government, I did not consider it proper to ask any one to make donations and so we have hardly any funds at present. Whatever I have raised has been exhausted.

During the last few months, I have been trying to reorganise the work of the Parishad so that the remaining volumes

2.

may be expedited. We are fortunate in securing cooperation of the best scholars in the country and the volume which has been published has been very well received by those who are in a position to judge. I have, therefore, ventured to apply to the Government to make suitable contribution so that the work may be completed. My application is pending before the Government of India and I have just received intimation that the Government of Bihar has sanctioned a contribution. I, am, therefore approaching you with the request that your Government may kindly make a suitable grant to the 'Bharatiya Itihas Parishad' for this purpose. *The total cost on the 20 volumes is reported to be 3.54 lakhs and it is hoped that all the volumes can be completed and brought out in four or five years.*

Yours sincerely,

Rajendra Prasad

(Rajendra Prasad)

Hon'ble Shri O.P. Ramaswamy Reddiar,
Premier,
Government of Madras,
Fort St. George, Madras.

Education & P.H. (G3) Dept.

Grant - Publication of a Modern History of India by the 'Bharatiya Itihas Parishad' - Grant of Rs. 10,000/- Sanctioned.

ORDER (MS). No. 1297 Edn. dated 21-5-48

The Government sanction the payment of a grant of Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees ten thousand only) for 1948-49 to the 'Bharatiya Itihas Parishad' towards the cost of preparation and publication of a Modern History of India. The grant will be continued during 1949-50 also. */to this Govt/* The Parishad is requested to supply *one hundred* sets of the ~~English~~ publication *in English* ~~in English~~ as and when they are published.

2. The A.G. is requested to admit the expenditure in audit pending provision of funds.

3. The expenditure will be debited to "37-r-General - Miscellaneous - A(i) 8 - Other grants". *Education*

SPECIAL.

SUMMARISING NOTE.

The Chairman, Bharatiya Itihas Parishad (Dr. Rajendra Prasad) presented an application to Government for a suitable grant to the Parishad towards the cost of writing and publishing a Modern History of India. He reported that the 'Parishad' had hardly any funds, that it has therefore applied to the Govt. of India for a suitable contribution, that its application was pending and that the Government of Bihar have already sanctioned a contribution. In similar cases, this Govt. have sanctioned an annual contribution of Rs. 5,000/- for three years to the Travancore University for the publication of a Malayalam Lexicon and to the Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, as a token of appreciation of the work of the Institution and its all-India Character. It was considered that in this case also, a grant of Rs. 10,000/- a year for two years may be paid towards the cost of publication of the work. Proposals of this kind should ordinarily be treated as Part II Schemes or if they are to be introduced during the course of a year, they should be treated as on a 'New Service'. The H.M. (Edn) however minuted that the matter had been talked over with the H.Pr. and H.M. (Fin) and that as a reply should be sent immediately to the Parishad President of the Congress, the matter need not be detained for examination by the department but might be put up to H.Pr. and H.M. (Fin) immediately. The H.M. (Fin) and H.Pr. agreed to the proposal to give a grant of Rs. 10,000/- a year for the years 1948-49^{and} 49-50 to the Bharatiya Itihas Parishad towards the cost of preparation and publication of a Modern History of India. Orders were accordingly issued in G.O.No.1297.Edn. dated 21-5-48 sanctioning the payment of the grant (copy enclosed)

This note may now be circulated to the other Honourable Ministers who have not seen the case. Copies

4. The D.P.I. is requested to address the Government in time for provision of funds.

To ^{Chairman} The Secy. 'Bharatiya Itihas Parishad', Wardha. ✓
To the D.P.I. ✓
" A.G.thro' Fin. ✓
" copy Fin. ✓
4 spare copies.

17.5.48

4

summarising note is submitted for approval.

20/1/8.
8/1/8.
29.5.68

h
29.5.68 S W
29/1/8.

2/1/8
29.5.68

12/1/8
29.5.68

29/1/8

E.A.

29.5.68
29.5.68